atelier du noir
presents

China Girls 6 - Violet
By Hu Rong

<Rui> alright. I should get my butt to studying T_T
<Jel> I need to too T_T
<Valdien> me too work T_T
<Mzitpix> Suffer, younguns. ..
<Valdien> O! LETS GET 'EM HE'S OLD

Perks of being old. Rip

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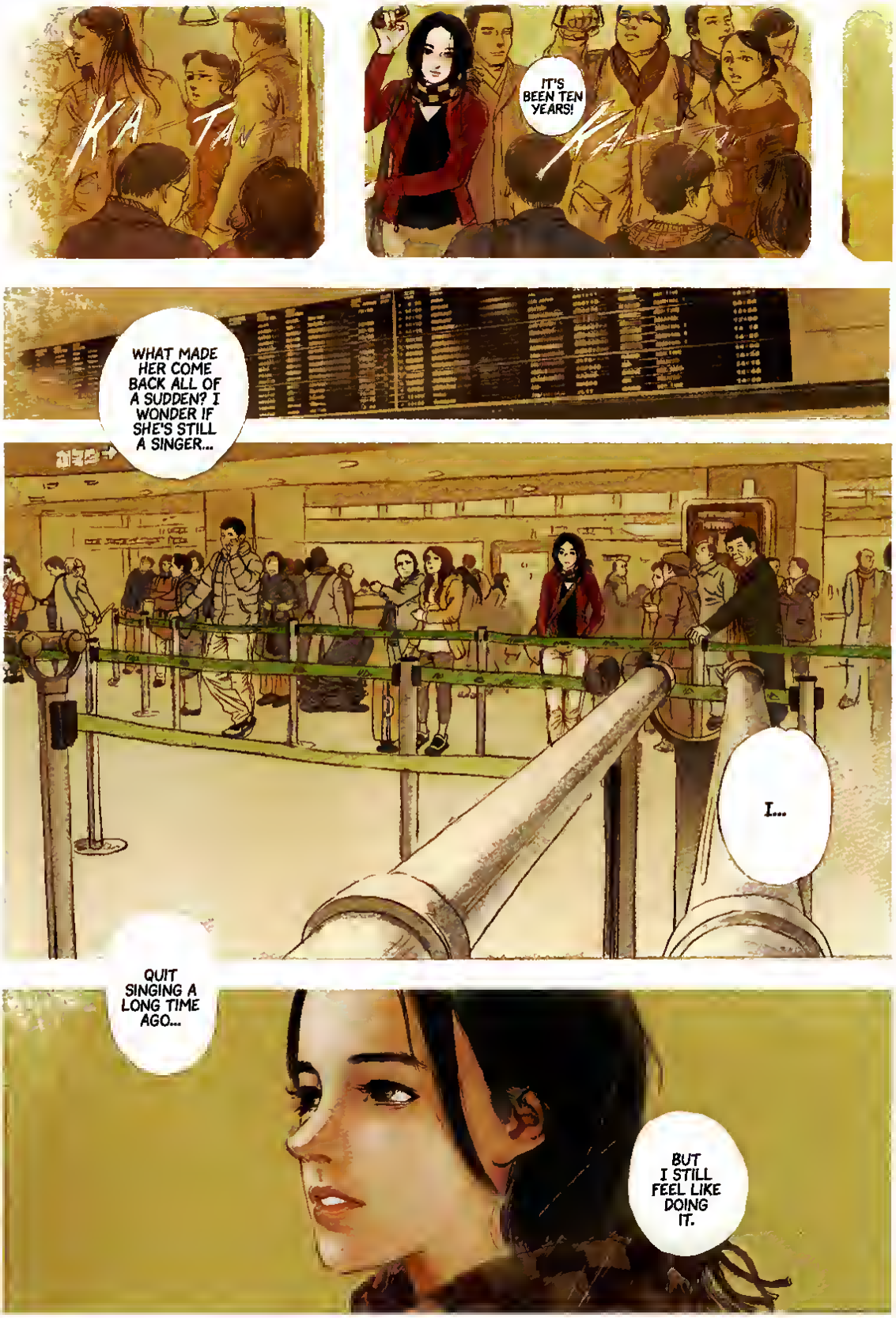
VIOLET
GET DOWN FROM THERE! AUNTIE WILL SCOLD YOU IF YOU MAKE A MESS OF HER SHEETS.
bounce
bounce
bounce
!
JUST LET HER JUMP ON THE BED, MOM!
I'M LEAVING FOR THE AIRPORT NOW!
LU IS BACK!
LU? THE GIRL YOU USED TO SING WITH?
WILL YOU BE BACK FOR DINNER?
YEAH, MAYBE...
...OR MAYBE NOT.

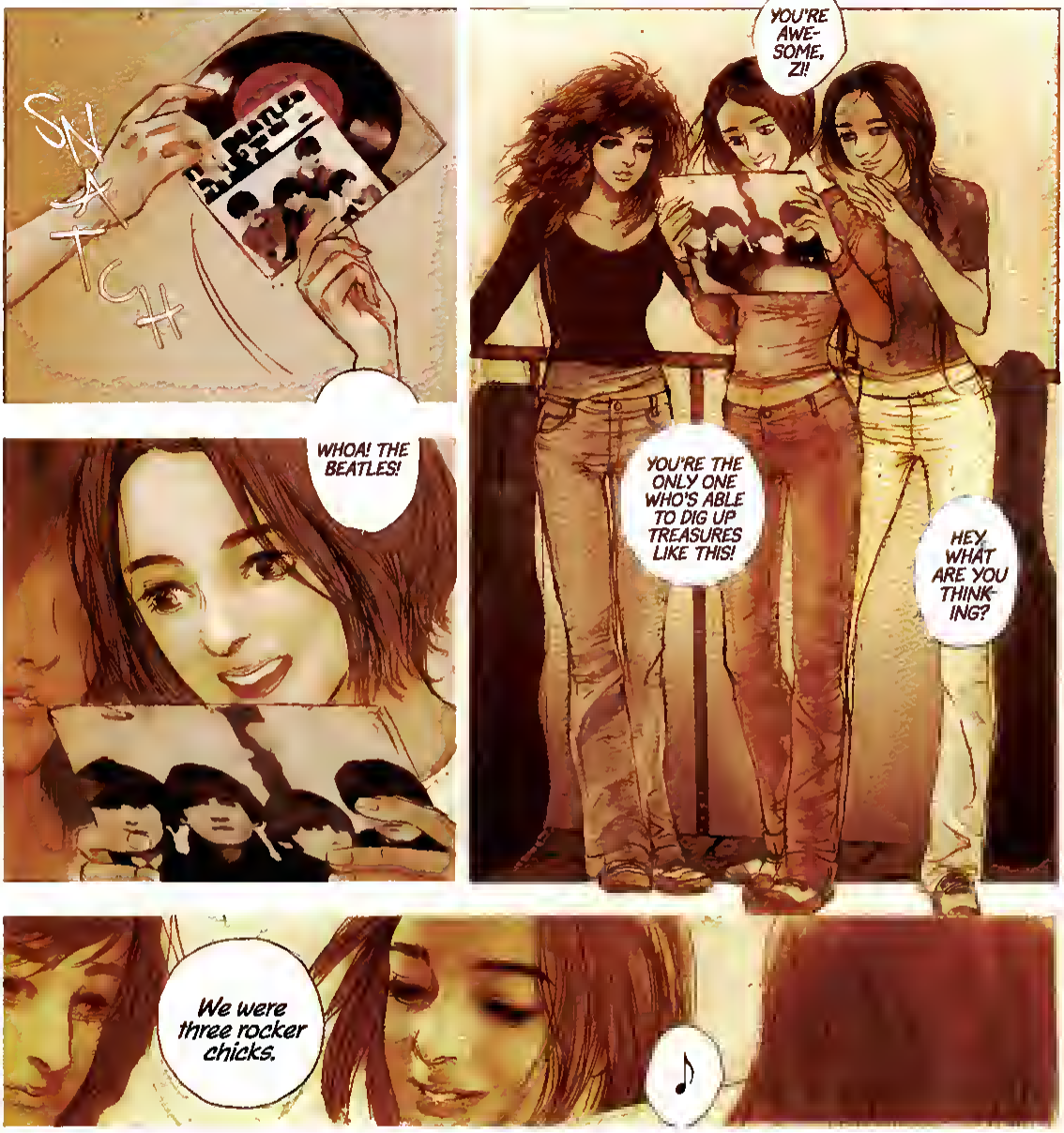

KA TAN
IT'S BEEN TEN YEARS!
KA TAN
WHAT MADE HER COME BACK ALL OF A SUDDEN? I WONDER IF SHE'S STILL A SINGER...
I...
QUIT SINGING A LONG TIME AGO...
BUT I STILL FEEL LIKE DOING IT.

Back then, there were three of us. Zi was still with us. What ever became of her?
LU!!

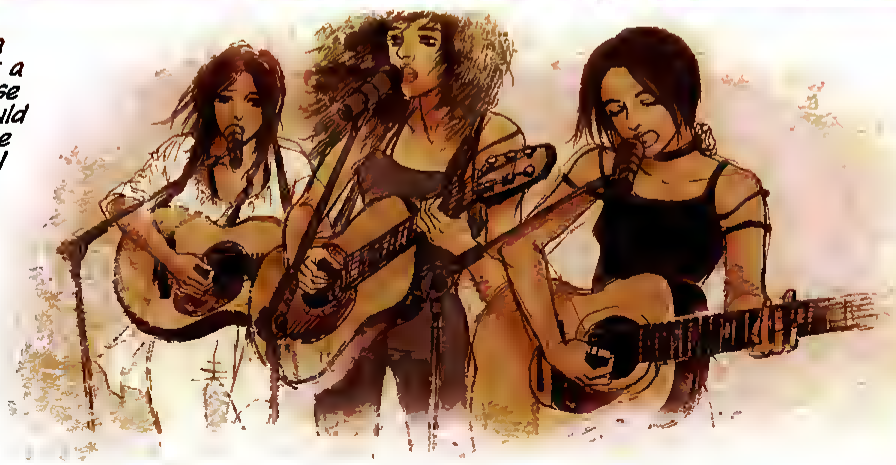
BAI! YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED ONE BIT!
YOU HAVE, YOU'VE CHANGED A LOT!
OH YEAH?
I'VE GOTTEN OLDER?
NO, YOU HAVE THAT WESTERN LOOK!
ARE YOU BEING SARCASTIC?
HA-HA
TAXI!
TAXI
JB-F1857

IT'S REALLY NICE OF YOU TO COME AND PICK ME UP.
I'M HAPPY TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
SO, WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO...
LADIES?
TO THE HOTEL THREE STARS...
?
AREN'T YOU GOING HOME?

NOPE. YOU KNOW, HOME, THAT'S JUST MY LITTLE BROTHER'S PLACE ANYWAY.
OH, BY THE WAY, IS ZI COMING?
I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO REACH HER.
IT'S BEEN SO MANY YEARS!
ZI WAS REALLY GREAT BACK THEN. SHE HAD THE GUTS TO RUN AROUND WITH THAT TOTALLY TEASED, CURLY HAIR. I BET SHE WAS THE ONLY GIRL IN CHINA WITH THAT KIND OF HAIRSTYLE!

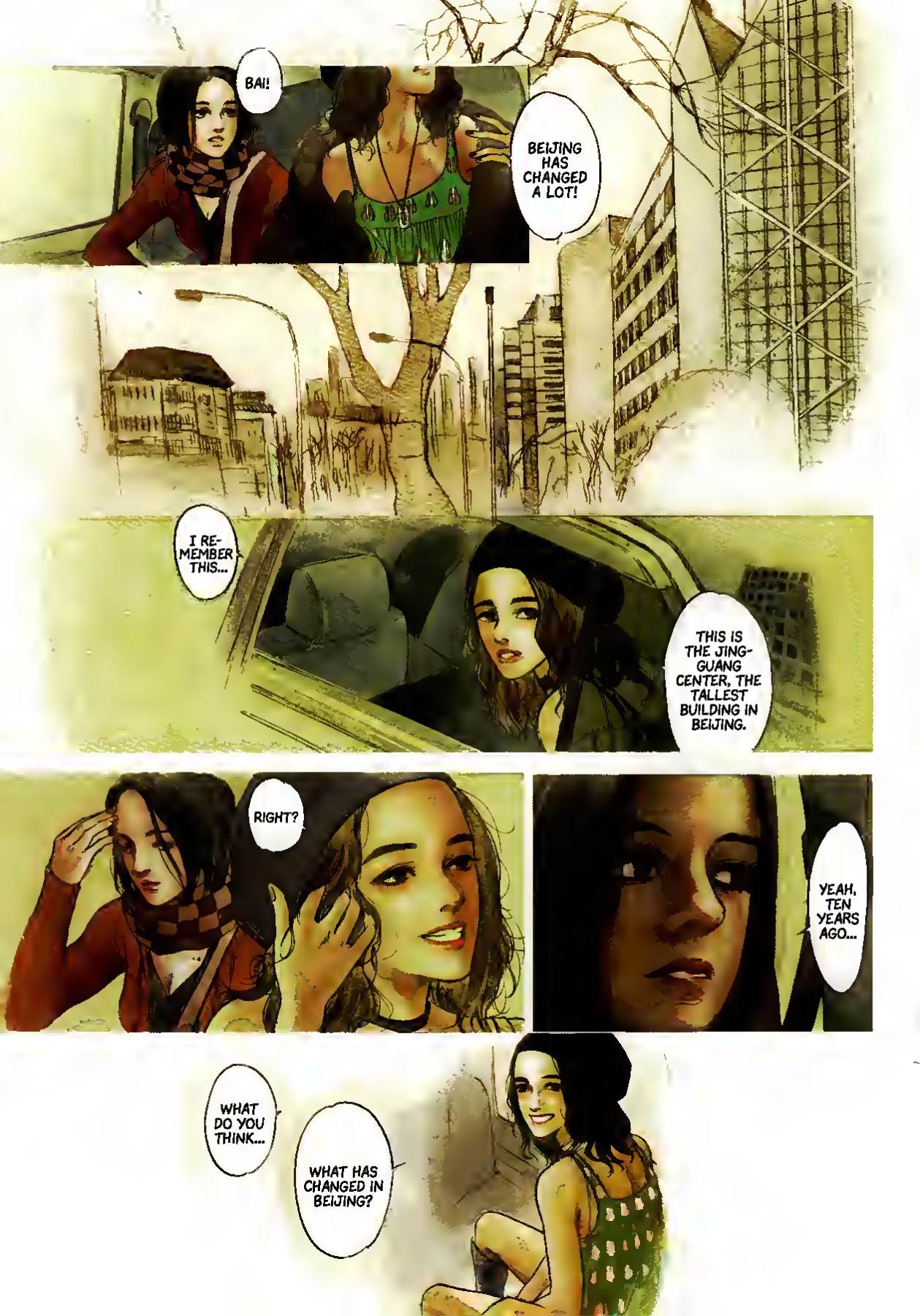

WHOA! THE BEATLES!
YOU'RE AWE-SOME, ZI!
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO'S ABLE TO DIG UP TREASURES LIKE THIS!
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU THINK-ING?
We were three rocker chicks.

I wanted a silver guitar, a guitar whose sounds would carry to the universe. I wanted a mirror...



We were practicing all the time, never taking a break. We were trying really hard...
...A mirror that would show me what I was really like.
But we were happy and we were great singers!!!
YOU WANT TO LEAVE, LU? DO YOU REALLY WANT TO LEAVE BEIJING?
And when we had gigs, it was even better! It's a feeling you can't describe.

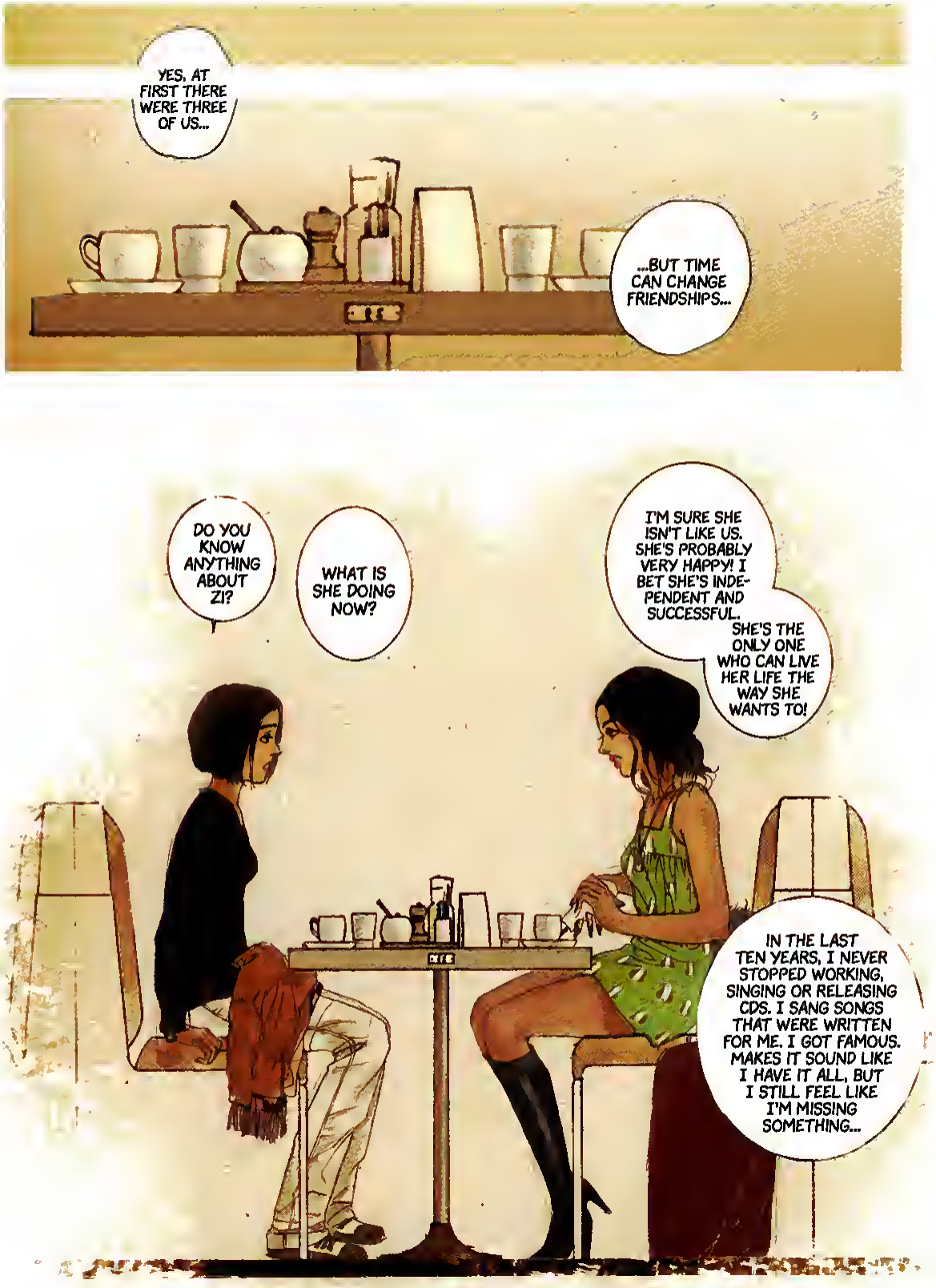
DON'T BE MAD AT ME! I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE BEIJING...
MUCH LESS YOU GUYS...
BUT THIS IS SUCH A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR ME...
Yeah, we all knew she was right.
What did our small rock band even matter?


BAI!
BEIJING HAS CHANGED A LOT!
I RE-MEMBER THIS...
THIS IS THE JING-GUANG CENTER, THE TALLEST BUILDING IN BEIJING.
RIGHT?
YEAH, TEN YEARS AGO...
WHAT DO YOU THINK...
WHAT HAS CHANGED IN BEIJING?

AS FOR THE BUILD-INGS...
YOU CAN SEE FOR YOURSELF.
ASIDE FROM THAT, PEOPLE AREN'T WILLING TO GIVE UP THEIR PLEASURES NOW IN ORDER TO REACH THEIR FUTURE IDEALS ANYMORE LIKE WE DID BACK THEN. WHEN WE WERE STINTING ON FOOD AND EVERY-THING ELSE, JUST TO BUY A GUITAR.
IF WE ACTED LIKE THIS TODAY...
WE'D BE CONSIDERED A BUNCH OF IDIOTS WHO WEREN'T LIVING IN THE MOMENT.
NO ONE READS OR WRITES POEMS THESE DAYS. INSTEAD, IT'S ALL PIRATED BOOKS AND CDS OF THE LOWEST POSSIBLE QUALITY THAT SELL...

AND YOU, BAI? ARE YOU HAPPY IN THIS NEW BEIJING?
WELL THEN, HERE WE ARE!
THANKS.
EVEN GIRL TALKS DON'T GO BEYOND CLOTHES OR GUYS ANY-MORE...
YOU'D ALMOST THINK ALL THAT'S ON THEIR MIND IS HOW THEY LOOK...
...THAT AND HOW TO FLIRT WITH GUYS.
BAI! JUST THINK ABOUT THESE TEN YEARS!

IT'S THE SAME FOR ME. WHEN I GOT THE CHANCE TO GO ABROAD, I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD TURN OUT TO BE SO DEPRESSING!
YEAH, BUT THAT DIDN'T AFFECT YOUR LIFE...
OVER THERE, YOU CAN BE SUCCESSFUL, THAT'S TRUE. BUT NO ONE CARES ABOUT WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH.
IT'S A BIT LIKE I'VE LOST PART OF MY MEMORIES...
HM... IT DID! BECAUSE, YOU SEE...
...
AMNESIA IS A TYPE OF DISEASE!
NO ONE IS BORN WITH A KNACK FOR SINGING. THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS TALENT.


YES, AT FIRST THERE WERE THREE OF US...
...BUT TIME CAN CHANGE FRIENDSHIPS...
DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ZI?
WHAT IS SHE DOING NOW?
I'M SURE SHE ISN'T LIKE US. SHE'S PROBABLY VERY HAPPY! I BET SHE'S INDEPENDENT AND SUCCESSFUL.
SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN LIVE HER LIFE THE WAY SHE WANTS TO!
IN THE LAST TEN YEARS, I NEVER STOPPED WORKING, SINGING OR RELEASING CDS. I SANG SONGS THAT WERE WRITTEN FOR ME. I GOT FAMOUS. MAKES IT SOUND LIKE I HAVE IT ALL, BUT I STILL FEEL LIKE I'M MISSING SOMETHING...

I'M JUST STAYING HERE FOR THREE DAYS. SUCH A SHORT TIME! I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO FIND ZI. CAN YOU HELP ME LOOK FOR HER?
OKAY, I WILL....
I'M NOT REALLY UP TO DATE.
GA TAN.
Lu didn't ask me how I am. Well, not like there's much to tell on that topic...
!
I live with my parents, I eat dinner with them...
I'm just like a parasite.
Nothing interesting.

That's Lu before she left...

And this is how she came back.

That's me back then...

And this is me now.

We don't know anything about Zi... And she doesn't know that we're spending our time looking for her. She would laugh about it if she knew!!

We won't get back the past...
We won't find Zi again...
We've lost our guitars...

You come back for three days to find your past... Everything you lost a long time ago?
But that's impossible! Why look for the past?
DON'T GO HOME. STAY WITH ME AT THE HOTEL, SO WE CAN TALK MORE.
NO.
I'D RATHER COME BACK TOMOR-ROW...
OKAY!
IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE TO DO...
BE HERE AS EARLY AS POSSI-BLE. THERE'S SO MUCH I NEED TO TELL YOU.
OKAY!
If we find Zi, do you think we'll be able to sing together again, us three?

Lu is on a hopeless quest for the past.
But over the course of this quest...
The past will become the present... What would change if we found Zi again?
Lu, will you always...
Come back this way from now on, like a storm...
To search for something again? To get your life sorted out again?

Three days passed quickly... Goodbye, Beijing. Beijing that changed so much in these ten years!

Goodbye, Beijing Railway Station, which hasn't changed! You'll always find things that haven't changed...
BAI.
IT'S A SHAME THAT WE DIDN'T FIND ZI. BUT DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
YOU KNOW...
I WANT TO FIND HER FOR MYSELF. WE CAN'T JUST LOSE OUR PAST. WE HAVE TO FIND OUR GUITARS AGAIN!

AND THEN...
SHE HAS TO PLAY HER GUITAR AGAIN!
WE'LL FIND HER AND WE'LL ALL SING TOGET-HER ONCE AGAIN!
YES!
I'LL BE BACK! AND NEXT TIME, I WON'T LEAVE AGAIN!

END